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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/830,236

07/16/2001

Kineo Matsui

MES1P041

4988

22434

7590

09/07/2004

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EXAMINER

LAVIN, CHRISTOPHER L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2621

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/830,236

Applicant(s)

MATSUI, KINEO

Examiner

Christopher L Lavin

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Specification

2. 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, requires the specification to be written in "full, clear, concise, and exact terms." The specification is replete with terms which are not clear, concise and exact. The specification should be revised carefully in order to comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Examples of some unclear, inexact or verbose terms used in the specification are:
3. Throughout the specification there are numerous grammatical errors, which while not precluding comprehension of the claims hinder understanding of the concepts. Several examples of these grammatical errors can be seen in the first paragraph of the background art. The first sentence should read, "Advanced computer networks like the Internet accelerate digitalization of information and allow a large number of users to access information readily. " The sentence starting on line 19 is another example of poor grammar.
4. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 1 - 8 objected to because of the following informalities:
6. All the claims suffer from poor grammar and should be corrected; some of the more serious errors have been documented below with suggested corrections.
7. In claim 1, the following corrections should be made:

8. The lines 13 through 15 should be changed to read, "adjusting the color signal transformation matrix by either adding a digital watermark matrix to or subtracting a digital watermark matrix from the color signal transformation matrix "
9. On line 17, it is unclear what the term "thereof" is referring to in the claim. It appears that "thereof" is referring to the digital watermark matrix, but this link should be made clearer.
10. On line 19, the phrase "all substantially equal to zero" should be elaborated upon.
11. Claim 2 should be rewritten to read:

"An embedding method in accordance with claim 1, wherein either the first colorimetric system or second colorimetric system is an RGB colorimetric system using three primary colors of light as parameters, while the other colorimetric system is a YcbCr colorimetric system using a luminance signal and color difference signals as parameters. "
12. In claim 3, the final line should be changed to: "in a range not exceeding -0.1 and 0.1 ."
13. In claim 4, the line 17 should be changed to: "carrying out either an underflow correction or an overflow ".
14. In regards to claim 7, please see the suggested corrections for claim 1.
15. Appropriate correction is required.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Conclusion

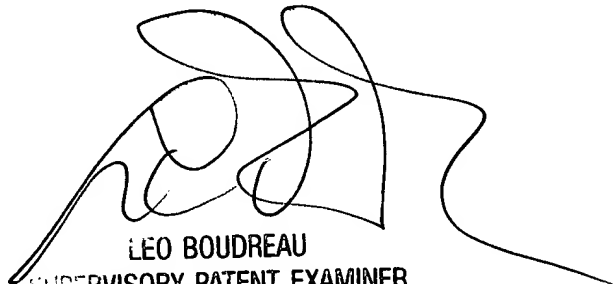
16. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
17. US Pat. 6,463,162 discloses a watermarking system using transformation matrices.
18. US Pat. 6,591,009 discloses a watermarking system using color space transformations to embed a watermark into an image.
19. US Pat. 6,640,005 discloses another watermarking system using color space transformations to embed a watermark into an image.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher L Lavin whose telephone number is 703-306-4220. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F (8:30 - 5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Boudreau can be reached on (703)305-4706. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CLL



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